

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is an Allowance of all claims pending after entry of the Amendments filed 6/4/2009. Claims 77, 78, 80-83, and 87-90 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art Rapp (US 7,079,906) does not teach or fairly suggest in view of the prior art of record, a portable device and method for recording and evaluating a subordinate's work as *particularly* recited in claims 77 and 81 of the present invention. Specifically, none of Rapp, Richardson (US Pat. No. 5,867,823), or Ryan et al. (US Pat. No. 6,871,195), alone or in combination, teach or fairly suggest *said first, second, and third screen windows*, and *said first, second, third, and fourth inputs*, each as particularly recited in the claims, and wherein *said display comprises a concurrent display of said first particular set of job methods, and said third screen window comprises a concurrent display of said second particular set of job methods* as recited in independent claims 77 and 81.

Rapp teaches a portable device including an interface for selecting and viewing jobs (see Rapp, Figure 11) for directing a worker to perform a series of work tasks for a set of jobs, including providing a display of work methods in conjunction with job and element selection; however, Rapp does not teach the portable device interface as receiving a fourth input indicating that a subordinate has failed to comply with at least one job method relating to a subordinate's work activity indicating that the subordinate

has failed to comply with at least one job method as particularly recited in claims 77 and 81.

Richardson teaches a portable device for directing and recording work activities of an employee and monitoring the completion of the work activity by an employee including receiving inputs related to the employee's work activity; however, Richardson does not teach an interface for concurrently displaying work elements and methods of a work activity as recited in independent claims 77 and 81.

Ryan teaches a method and system for assigning and monitoring work activity of a worker for a series of directed tasks and including receiving inputs related to the subordinate's work activity and providing reference material on work methods; however, Ryan does not teach an interface for selecting and viewing jobs, with a fourth input indicating that the subordinate has failed to comply with at least one job method, the methods and elements of the work activity being displayed and inputs responsive, or concurrent display of said second particular set of job methods as particularly recited in claims 77 and 81.

While aspects of the present invention may be present in the prior art as above, the *combination of elements as particularly recited* in claims 77 and 81, the combination adapted for rapid selection and evaluation of concurrently displayed work elements and methods of a work activity over the course of a subordinate's work session, with inputs responsive to and display of indications of failure to comply with a work method, is not fairly suggested by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dave Robertson whose telephone number is (571)272-8220. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am to 5 pm, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on (571) 272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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